

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 65th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS, LABOR, AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

Call to Order: Chair Edward Buttrey, on April 5, 2017 at 8:00 AM, in Room 422 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Edward Buttrey, Chair (R)
Sen. Dee Brown, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Pat Connell (R)
Sen. Tom Facey (D)
Sen. Steve Fitzpatrick (R)
Sen. Daniel R. Salomon (R)
Sen. Jason D. Small (R)
Sen. Frank Smith (D)
Sen. Gordon Vance (R)
Sen. Gene Vuckovich (D)

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Linda Keim, Committee Secretary
Jameson Walker, Legislative Branch

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: SR 55, 3/30/2017; SR 56, 3/30/2017, HB 653, 4/3/2017, HB 660, 4/3/2017

Executive Action: Be Adopted: SR 56, SR 55
Be Concurred In As Amended: HB 449

00:00:46 Chair Buttrey

Vice Chair Brown assumed the role of chair.

HEARING ON SR 56

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:02:38 Sen. Edward Buttrey (R), SD 11, opened the hearing on SR 56. Confirm Governor's appointee for Director, Department of Commerce.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:04:04 Pam Haxby-Cote, Butte, appointee; business owner; executive director, Butte Local Development Corporation; founder, Girls Empowered by Math and Science
EXHIBIT(bus71a01)

00:11:23 Ray Rogers, CEO, National Center for Healthcare Infomatics, Board of Directors, Butte Local Development Corporation

00:14:50 Paul Tuss, executive director, Bear Paw Development Corporation (BPDC)

00:18:27 Jason Rittal, county development adviser, Fallon County

00:22:33 Jen Euell, Florence, director, Women's Foundation of Montana

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:27:24 Sen. Connell

00:29:08 Ms. Haxby-Cote, appointee

00:31:26 Sen. Salomon

00:32:09 Ms. Haxby-Cote

00:34:40 Chair Brown

00:38:20 Ms. Haxby-Cote

00:39:48 Sen. Facey

00:42:25 Mr. Tuss, BPDC

00:42:29 Chair Brown

Closing by Sponsor:

00:42:40 Sen. Buttrey

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SR 56

00:44:15 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Facey moved that **SR 56 BE ADOPTED**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

HEARING ON SR 55

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:45:59 Sen. Edward Buttrey (R), SD 11, opened the hearing on SR 55. Confirm Governor's appointees to Commission for Human Rights.

Proponents' Testimony for Teresa Doty:

00:48:58 Teresa Doty, appointee; certified mediator; director, Civil Rights, Northern Region of the U. S. Forest Service

Opponents' Testimony for Teresa Doty: None

Informational Testimony for Teresa Doty: None

Proponents' Testimony for Mike Murray:

00:49:39 Mike Murray, appointee; former chair, Lewis and Clark County Commission, Helena

00:51:23 Eric Bryson, Montana Association of Counties

00:53:52 Tim Burton, executive director, Montana League of Cities and Towns

Opponents' Testimony for Michael Murray: None

Informational Testimony for Michael Murray: None

Proponents' Testimony for Christopher Pope: None

Note: Mr. Pope is a former legislator and licensed commercial realtor from Bozeman. He was not able to attend today's hearing.

Opponents' Testimony for Christopher Pope: None

Informational Testimony for Christopher Pope: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:56:10 Chair Brown

00:56:15 Mike Murray, Helena

Closing by Sponsor:

00:57:02 Sen. Buttrey

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SR 55

00:57:38 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. D. Brown moved that **SR 55 BE ADOPTED**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

Sen. Buttrey assumed the role of chair.

HEARING ON HB 660

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:59:41 Rep. Jennifer Eck (D), HD 79, opened the hearing on HB 660. Revise lodging facility use tax to construct MHC.

[EXHIBIT\(bus71a02\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

01:04:48 Bruce Whittenberg, director, Montana Historical Society (MHS)

[EXHIBIT\(bus71a03\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(bus71a04\)](#)

01:11:22 Ken Fichtler, Office of Economic Development, Governor's Office

01:14:07 Ed Jasmin, self, Montana Historical Society

01:15:35 Crystal Shors, past president, Board of Trustees, Montana Historical Society

01:16:42 Chere Jiusto, executive director, Montana Preservation Alliance

01:21:01 Marty Schuma, president, Dick Anderson Construction (DAC)

01:23:24 Stephanie Ambrose Tubbs, historian; writer; member, Montana Historical Society

01:25:06 Stuart Doggett, Montana Lodging and Hospitality Association (MLHA)

01:28:39 Tim Burton, executive director, Montana League of Cities and Towns

01:29:43 Cary Hegreberg, executive director, Montana Contractors Association

01:31:03 Chris Cavazos, Montana American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organizations

01:31:47 Webb Brown, Montana Chamber of Commerce

01:32:40 Morgan Smith, Montana Education Association and the Montana Federation of Teachers

01:33:27 Denise King, administrator, Montana Historical Society; also speaking for Board of Trustees, Greater Montana Foundation

[EXHIBIT\(bus71a05\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

01:36:44 Jennifer Olson, administrator, Community Development Division, Department of Commerce (COM)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:37:14 Sen. Connell

01:41:07 Mr. Whittenberg, MHS

01:42:35 Sen. Facey

01:42:39 Ms. Olson, COM

01:43:09 Chair Buttrey

01:43:23 Sen. Facey

01:43:25 Sen. Brown

01:48:17 Mr. Whittenberg
01:48:31 Sen. Facey
01:49:29 Mr. Schuma, DAC
01:49:34 Sen. Vuckovich
01:53:40 Rep. Eck
01:54:11 Sen. Smith
01:54:59 Mr. Whittenberg
01:55:19 Chair Buttrey
01:56:47 Rep. Eck
01:56:57 Chair Buttrey
01:59:01 Mr. Whittenberg
01:59:57 Chair Buttrey
02:02:00 Mr. Doggett, MLHA

Closing by Sponsor:

02:02:05 Rep. Eck
02:03:05 Chair Buttrey

HEARING ON HB 653

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

02:04:21 Rep. Matt Regier (R), HD 4, opened the hearing on HB 653. Revise laws relating to service of process with the commissioner of insurance.

Proponents' Testimony:

02:05:53 Brett Olin, attorney, Office of the Montana State Auditor, Commissioner of Securities and Insurance (CSI)

[EXHIBIT](#)(bus71a06)

02:10:59 Bruce Spencer, Allstate Insurance Company, America's Health Insurance Plans (AHIP)

Opponents' Testimony:

02:12:20 Al Smith, Montana Trial Lawyers Association (MTLA)

[EXHIBIT](#)(bus71a07)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:20:38 Sen. Facey
02:21:07 Mr. Spencer, AHIP
02:22:08 Sen. Facey
02:22:10 Mr. Olin, CSI
02:23:11 Sen. Facey

02:23:56 Mr. Smith, MTLA
 02:24:06 Chair Buttrey
 02:24:13 Mr. Smith
 02:24:18 Sen. Brown
 02:25:31 Mr. Smith
 02:26:44 Sen. Brown
 02:26:47 Chair Buttrey
 02:26:55 Sen. Brown
 02:27:19 Mr. Olin
 02:29:08 Sen. Facey
 02:31:41 Mr. Olin
 02:32:11 Sen. Facey
 02:32:26 Mr. Smith
 02:33:04 Chair Buttrey
 02:35:30 Mr. Spencer
 02:35:45 Chair Buttrey
 02:35:49 Rep. Regier
 02:35:54 Sen. Connell
 02:40:55 Mr. Olin
 02:41:14 Chair Buttrey
 02:41:17 Jameson Walker, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

Closing by Sponsor:

02:42:19 Rep. Regier
 02:42:49 Chair Buttrey

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 449

02:43:35 **Motion:** Sen. D. Brown moved that **HB 449 BE CONCURRED IN.**

02:44:13 **Motion:** Sen. D. Brown moved that **HB 449 BE AMENDED.**
[EXHIBIT\(bus71a08\)](#)

Discussion:

02:44:26 Chair Buttrey
 02:46:38 Sen. Facey
 02:46:52 Chair Buttrey
 02:46:56 Sen. Brown

 02:47:12 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

 02:47:24 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. D. Brown moved that **HB 449 BE CONCURRED IN AS AMENDED.** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Sen. Facey will carry the bill.

 02:48:08 Chair Buttrey

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 10:49 AM

Linda Keim, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([bus71aad.pdf](#))